

STATE OF TEXAS	\$
COUNTIES OF POTTER	\$
AND RANDALL	\$
CITY OF AMARILLO	\$

On the 15th day of June, 2011, the Comprehensive Plan Implementation Advisory Committee met in a scheduled session at 12:00 P.M. in Room 303 on the third floor of City Hall, 509 East 7th Avenue, Amarillo, Texas, with the following members present:

VOTING MEMBERS	PRESENT	NO. MEETINGS HELD	NO. MEETINGS ATTENDED
Bill Chudej	Yes	2	1
Leon Church	Yes	2	2
Bob Juba	No	2	1
Wes Knapp	Yes	2	2
Don Sanders	Yes	2	2
Eddie Scott	Yes	2	1
Howard Smith	Yes	2	2
Dana Walton	No	2	1
Vacant			

CITY STAFF:

Kelley Shaw, Planning Director  
Carolyn Back, Comprehensive Planner  
Michael Rice, Public Works Director  
Van Hagan, Asst. Public Works Director

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

## Espey Consultants, Inc. Representatives

Kelley Shaw opened the meeting, established a quorum, and conducted the consideration of the following items beginning with ITEM 1.

ITEM 1: Approve the minutes of the Committee's May 19, 2011 meeting

Mr. Shaw welcomed everyone and asked if there were any questions on the previous meeting's minutes? Hearing none, the motion was made to approve the minutes as written. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

## ITEM 2: Elect Chairman and Vice Chairman

Mr. Shaw asked for nominations for Chairman and Vice Chairman. The motion was made to elect Bob Juba as Chairman and Don Sanders as Vice Chairman. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

### ITEM 3: Discuss Comprehensive Plan and its recommendation related to a Drainage Utility Study

Mr. Shaw began the discussion by pointing out the areas within Chapter 3, Growth Management and Capacity, that had statements related to public infrastructure and that advised to consider fee mechanisms that generated additional revenue for infrastructure construction and maintenance. Mr. Shaw then discussed the specific action strategies that were listed within Chapter 3 that specifically recommended consideration of a drainage utility fee.

Mr. Shaw explained that the recommendation mentioned that it was considered an equitable method for financing of improvements that many other Cities were using and that Amarillo was not. Mr. Shaw stated that at the end of this process, CPAC members would be asked to give a recommendation as to the viability and implementation of a drainage utility to the City Commission.

### ITEM 4: Discussion by City Public Works staff and consultants on information related to a Drainage Utility Study

Mr. Shaw introduced Van Hagan to discuss the Drainage Utility Study. Mr. Hagan gave a brief introduction to the Committee on Public Works' consideration of a drainage utility. He discussed some of the issues such as existing drainage problems and why it was something that needed to be considered. He then introduced Mr. George Oswald, Espey Consultants, Inc to go into more detail on the study.

Mr. Oswald introduced his team and then gave began discussion of the drainage utility concept and the advantages it presented to the City if implemented. Main points that were presented included that the utility was a "user" type fee and that it was equitable, and a stable long term revenue source and could be used for bond leveraging. He also mentioned that there were some mandatory and discretionary exemptions from the utility. Mr. Oswald discussed how the fee would be calculated (Equivalent Residential Unit) and presented examples of other cities and the range of fees that currently exist.

Mr. Chudej asked for clarification of the calculation method which Mr. Oswald went over again. Mr. Sanders asked Public Works staff what types and locations of drainage issues were there in the Amarillo area? Mr. Hagan explained some specific locations and informed the Committee about the many complaints they receive and that it is problematic to try and address such issues with limited resources. Questions also arose regarding TXDOT and their responsibility for their roadways to which Mr. Rice responded that it is mostly a shared responsibility.

Mr. Rice briefly explained the City's 2-year storm policy and also reminded the Committee about the 9<sup>th</sup> Ave road collapsing incident and how that occurred and how it could possibly be prevented with more resources for proactive maintenance rather than reactive measures. Mr. Rice went on to say that Public Works currently had three priorities which included an emergency fund, maintenance and operation, and expansion respectively.

The discussion continued with Mr. Oswald going over the steps needed for implementation of the drainage utility which included a needs assessment, land data evaluation study, cost of service analysis, and public hearings. Mr. Scott asked if there was ever a City that went through the process and denied a recommendation for a drainage utility? Mr. Oswald stated very few.

Mr. Hagan informed the Committee that as the study moves forward that they will be giving the Committee updates on a regular basis.

ITEM 5: Public Forum

Mr. Alan Abraham stated that he would like to see Public Works implement water conservation into any drainage utility program that was approved. Hearing no other comments, the meeting was adjourned.

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Kelley Shaw  
Planning Director